

ANOTHER WARNING.

The Klondike a Veritable Bonanza of Wealth.

It is also a veritable Golgotha—one in twenty who leave the Klondike with a broken heart and a broken body.

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 2.—The Bulletin has received a letter from Charles Haines, dated Dawson City, July 26. Mr. Haines is a well-known newspaper writer, and his letter is the first written by a trained newspaper man to come out of the Klondike gold regions. He says:

"The rich diggings have been comparatively idle during the summer, although the output from El Dorado and Bonanza creeks was famous, and there was plenty of gold in sight. There is every prospect of an immense output of gold from this district next spring. The total output of this season is, as near as I can judge, about \$7,000,000, but very little ground has been worked and the dumps will, like some of the tailings of old California placers, pan out thousands of dollars when worked with improved machinery.

The placers are the most puzzling and deceiving I have ever seen. Imagine a man working on good 'color' and finding the ground worth only a few dollars per day, and then turning to a waste of mud and most of the surface indications and unearthing a bonanza. That is the situation here and all over Alaska. The man who comes here to mine does so at the expense of health and happiness, and it is with him a question of making a fortune quickly or take chances with death. About me are scores of men who can weigh their gold by the bucketful and who value their claims at millions. Four hundred valuable diggings are stretched along creeks, and every digger is a fabulous mine of gold, yet there are weary men who have gone and returned to Dawson, after searching the great country hereabouts and never a nugget of gold they show for their toil, their long weary tramp over broken grounds and into a country whose disadvantages are exceeded by no other place on earth.

"This Alaska Northwest territory is an odd prize-drawing proposition that I can liken to nothing that admits of a better comparison than a lottery. A number of spots are selected on the creeks, and for one year the miner labors. The year closes, the water runs and the season's output barely pays expenses.

Nearly two miles away from the unfortunate one is another who has taken from an uninviting spot a sack of gold. The lucky one did not strike the pocket, because of the strike at the mine; chance favored him and that was all. In short the miner guesses at it and locates any and everywhere. In 19 cases out of 20 he misses it, and has to wait another year for a new trial.

Dawson is merely a collection of log huts, saloons and a mass of men about 600 in number. When the long nights come and the glass goes down to 65 degrees below zero, there will be intense suffering here and I shudder to think of the results.

Provisions are going to be very scarce, and there is little reason to doubt that the entire town will have to go on short rations during the winter, and that scarcity will be rampant. The gold that will go down the river for San Francisco and Seattle will amount to about \$2,000,000. There is a lot of gold that will remain in camp, for it is used as an equivalent of money, and is legal tender at \$17 per ounce. Of the 3,000 or 4,000 inhabitants only a couple of hundred at the most have made big strikes. There is plenty of work at from \$15 to \$20 a day, and many men have paid \$250 or less for living and saved the balance.

Reports of other strikes are constantly being received here and many are authentic so far as Stewart and Polly rivers are concerned, but nothing like so rich as the Klondike has been reported.

Quite a number of people are preparing to leave here for Juneau, in case the steamers cannot get through with provisions and the outlook for a good grub supply is not encouraging. In conclusion, the Alaska and Northwest Territory gold fields will be developed slowly.

Ten thousand men may come here, but they will be lost in the vast country when they spread out to prospect. Not more than 500 of them will strike a mine. When they do strike pay gravel their fortunes will be made. In years to come, when, at the sacrifice of human life and energy the treasures of this great land are located, the wealth of the north will be something beyond comprehension.

FAMINE ALMOST CERTAIN.

A Gloomy Outlook for the Winter On the Klondike.

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 2.—News received in letters to the Alaska Commercial Co. that famine is almost certain on the Klondike next winter, receives confirmation from Mr. Goodhue, a newspaper correspondent at St. Michaels. He states that the Yukon is unusually low and that the chances of getting enough food to Dawson to support those now here and those flocking in are slender.

Embarrassment Caused by an Act of the Minnesota Legislature.

DULUTH, Minn., Sept. 2.—The city funds are practically exhausted and the city employees will probably be paid off in orders for many pay days to come. This embarrassment is attributed to a law passed at the last legislature allowing taxpayers to June of next year in which to pay their 1897 taxes. The heads of one-third of the police force were served yesterday, five engine houses and the fire department will be boarded up and all park and other improvements have been stopped.

Voted to Demand Ninety Cents a Ton on Strikers.

BOONE, Ia., Sept. 2.—The miners in this district held a meeting yesterday afternoon and voted to demand 90 cents per ton for mining or strike. This summer the miners in the general trade mines agreed to work during the summer for 80 cents in order to get some work during the dull season, the understanding being that the 90-cent rate would be resumed in the fall. The railroad mines have already made their contracts with the roads and with their miners, and say they cannot pay more.

EXCHANGED COMPLIMENTS.

President Faure's Dispatch to the Czar on His Return to France and the Czar's Reply—An Exchange of Freely Compliments.

PARIS, Sept. 2.—It was given out yesterday that upon the arrival of President Faure at Dunkirk Tuesday morning he sent a dispatch to the czar saying: At the moment I place my feet once more upon the soil of France my first thought is for your majesty and the whole Russian nation. The magnanimous and cordial reception given to the president of the republic calls forth throughout France a feeling of joy and emotion. It will leave in our hearts an ineffaceable memory.

May your majesty once more to accept the expression of my thanks and the wishes entertained for your majesty's happiness and that of the empire and the imperial family, and for the grandeur and prosperity of Russia.

The czar replied to this message from the Lazlevy palace, at Warsaw. He said: The emperor and myself are extremely grateful for your kind words just sent to us. It is with pleasure that I should receive the memory of the visit paid by the president of the republic to Russia, whose heart has once more been in union with that of France.

(Signed) NICHOLAS.

RAPID PROGRESS BEING MADE.

British Organizing Punitive Expeditions Against Insurgent Tribesmen.

BOMBAY, Sept. 2.—Military movements are reported from many places and rapid progress is made in the organization of the punitive expeditions being sent against the insurgent tribesmen.

Col. Gordon's column of troops from Peshawar has arrived safely at Kohat without having met with any opposition on the part of the insurgents.

The Afridis, according to the latest reports, have apparently left the Khyber pass.

The British post at Gazarband, Belochistan, which was held by native levies, was attacked on Sunday night last by a number of Brahuis, who murdered and robbed the levies and some travellers who had sought refuge there.

Many new signs of disaffection are reported from various points along the Indian frontier.

THE PUBLIC FINANCES.

Debt Statement for the Month of August—Cash Balance on Hand.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 2.—The monthly statement of the public debt, issued at the treasury department, shows the debt, less cash in the treasury, to be \$1,008,385,121, which is an increase for the month of \$14,888,475. This increase is accounted for by a corresponding decrease in the amount of cash on hand. The debt is recapitulated as follows:

Interest bearing debt \$847,363,540; debt on which interest has ceased since March 1, 1891, \$159,380,380; debt bearing no interest \$1,008,385,121. Total, \$1,008,385,121. This amount, however, does not include \$508,991,953 in certificates and treasury notes outstanding, which are offset by an equal amount of cash in the treasury.

The cash in the treasury is classified as follows: Gold, \$181,234,165; silver, \$12,988,498; paper, \$1,008,385,121; bonds, \$1,008,385,121. Total, \$1,008,385,121. This amount, however, does not include \$508,991,953 in certificates and treasury notes outstanding, which are offset by an equal amount of cash in the treasury.

THE ANNEXATION TREATY.

Haste to Secure Ratification Does Not Imply an Extra Session of Congress.

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There is no rule in diplomatic practice that would forbid Hawaii first acting upon the treaty, and the treaty itself does not indicate which government is to take the initiative in the ratification. While it is regarded as desirable in the execution of the policy of President McKinley toward Hawaii as laid down in his message transmitting the treaty to congress, last June, that the document should be ready in all respects for the action of the United States senate at its next session, it is not believed that the president has any intention of calling a special session for the purpose of ratification.

Indeed, considering the fact that if the Hawaiian legislature acts with the greatest promptness upon the treaty, it can scarcely complete its action and return the ratified convention to Washington before October at the earliest, it would appear to be unnecessary to advance the session of congress by such a short space of time as would intervene between that date and the date upon which congress meets in regular session.

PRACTICALLY AT AN END.

Striking Miners Return to Work in Large Numbers.

CINCINNATI, Sept. 2.—A Times-Star special from Knoxville, Tenn., says: The miners' strike in the Jellico district is practically at an end. The operators gave notice to the striking miners that unless they returned to work at the scale offered they would be treated as scabs and their names would be added to the list of scabs.

As this threatened homelessness, in addition to starvation, the strikers in large numbers have returned to work.

THE BANNER MONTH.

All Former Records Broken in Baltimore's Exports.

BALTIMORE, Md., Sept. 2.—August of 1897 was the banner month in the history of the port of Baltimore, so far as exports are concerned.

The value amounted to the enormous sum of \$10,243,391, figures never before reached.

Of the exports, grain formed the largest part, aggregating 2,350,659 bushels, breaking all previous records of the port for shipments of this character.

NICARAGUA CANAL.

The Commissioners Examining Papers Prior to Selling for Nicaragua.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 2.—Admiral Walker, President of the Nicaragua Canal commission had a conference with Secretary Sherman yesterday regarding some of the details of the work of the commission.

It is expected that Capt. Carter, the engineer officer, who is a member of the board, will return about the 15th of this month, and a meeting will be held in New York immediately on his return.

LABOR CONVENTION.

Results of the Gathering of Labor Leaders at St. Louis.

The Platform Setting Forth the Ideas of the Delegates—Laborers Asked to Contribute the Earnings of Friday, September 3.

ST. LOUIS, Sept. 1.—The labor convention at Masonic hall debated at length a report from the committee on resolutions and plans of action concerning the future course of the miners' strike.

The report set apart Friday, September 3, a day on which all labor organizations and their friends shall contribute to the relief of the miners. It further declared that if the strike be not ended by September 30 a mass convention be held at Chicago, September 27, to consider the course then to be pursued.

It inveighed at length against "government federal injunction," and called attention to a threatening manner to that provision of the federal constitution, providing that citizens have the right to bear arms.

During the prolonged discussion, which Eugene V. Debs and J. R. Sorensen took part, there were evidences of extreme dissatisfaction with the committee's report, most of the speakers arguing that it was "all sound and fury, signifying nothing."

A number of the orators talked calmly of shot-guns and violence, but these were not very enthusiastically received, since they failed to make it clear who and what were to be the victims.

The section of the report providing for a collection to support the miners was adopted. Its scope can only be realized when the figures are considered.

M. D. Ratcliff, president of the United Mine Workers' union, says there are 1,500,000 union laborers in the country. One day's pay for these laborers will amount to \$5,000,000. Mr. Ratcliff thinks, but he says the number of laborers may be 2,000,000, and that will increase the amount to over \$6,000,000.

The Platform.

The fears of the more watchful fathers of the republic have been justified. The judiciary has become supreme. We witness a political phenomenon absolutely new in the history of the world: a public prosecutor at the feet of the judges appointed to administer the laws. They acknowledge no superior.

Under the cunning form of injunctions courts have assumed to enact criminal laws, and after thus drawing to themselves the power of legislation, have repealed the bill of rights and for violations of these court-made laws have decreed the right of a trial by jury. The exercise of the common rights of freemen—the right of assembly, the right of free speech, the right of traveling the public highways—have by legislation, under injunctions, been made a crime, and armed forces are sent to enforce these court-made laws.

At its last term the supreme court of the United States decided that the thirteenth amendment, forbidding involuntary servitude, was violated by arresting a seaman, imprisoned him till his vessel is ready to leave port, and then forcing him to remain on board, or else out of his contract, a decision under which the old fugitive slave laws may yet be revived, and striking laborers besieged and returned to their homes.

Having drawn to themselves all the powers of the federal government until congress and presidents may act only by judicial permission, the federal judiciary has begun the subjugation of sovereign states, so that, unless a check is soon put upon the progress of this despotic rule, the federal government, but the absolute despotism of federal judges, exist anywhere over any portion of the United States.

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Railway union, and Donnelly of the Trades and Labor union.

W. Marble, of Burden, Ill., said he had returned from Arkansas with \$200,000 contributed from the miners of that state for the Illinois strikers.

The chairman announced that all money collected September 3 for the striking miners should be sent to W. C. Pearce, secretary of the United Mine Workers, Columbus, O.

Mr. Ratcliff thanked the convention in a short speech for what it had done in behalf of the striking miners, and expressed regret that the president had not been asked to convene congress with a view to restricting the federal courts from interfering with the rights of strikers.

Before Mr. Ratcliff had time to take to the floor a resolution, offered by W. C. Ryan, of Illinois, that a resolution be adopted, and the officers of the convention instructed to do so, the convention was adjourned.

The usual complimentary resolutions were adopted, and a protest against the Armour Packing Co. at Kansas City, Kas., and then the greatest convention of speech-makers that ever assembled in St. Louis was at an end.

It would be difficult at this time to predict the most important business transacted by the convention. Just before adjournment resolutions were adopted calling upon the president of the United States to convene congress in special session to define the jurisdiction of federal courts in the matter of issuing injunctions, and calling upon the coal miners of Missouri, Kentucky, Kansas and other states who are still at work to join the striking miners in Illinois, Pennsylvania, West Virginia and other localities.

Trouble was freely expressed as to whether Senator Mark Hanna would permit the president to convene congress for the purpose of limiting the jurisdiction of the federal courts in dealing with strikers, and others freely expressed the opinion that even if congress were convened for such a purpose, no laws would be enacted interfering with the power now exercised by the courts.

The resolution calling upon the coal miners in Missouri, Kentucky, Kansas, Iowa and other states to join in the strike may prove of much consequence. Members of the convention, who claimed to speak for these miners, said they would join the strike, if called upon to do so. In the states named, and also the Indian territory, pretty much all the miners are at work, and have been for a long time. They are better off than the miners anywhere west of the Mississippi river, according to accredited reports, and prior to last night no doubt were content with their lot.

Resolutions adopted by the convention, after eight hours of speech-making, denounce the interference of courts by injunction against strikers, set apart a day for contributions to the miners, call a second convention to meet in Chicago, and contain doctrines palliating almost every element that comprised the remarkable convention of single tax. Advocates of the theories of Henry George were on hand, and the convention was a hotbed of single tax propaganda.

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THE OGILVIE SURVEY.

Which Places the Klondike Safely in British Territory, Practically the Correct Boundary Line Between Alaska and the British Northwest Territory—No Likelihood of Trouble in Settling the Question.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 3.—Gen. Duffield, superintendent of the coast and geodetic survey, who has been prominently identified in determining the line between Alaska and the British Northwest territory, is not impressed with the probability of trouble between this government and Great Britain over the location of the Klondike gold fields.

"It is true," he said, when shown the dispatch from Port Townsend, quoting a deputy United States marshal as saying, in effect, that the United States would assume control over that section, that the location of the line between the two countries has not yet been formally accepted, but the location has been very definitely determined.

The one hundred and forty-first meridian was designated as the boundary between Russia and Great Britain, and nothing remained after our acceptance of that understanding but to locate the meridian. The location was made over the Yukon in the vicinity of the Yukon by the Canadians under Ogilvie, and their work was there checked by our men. We found that where Ogilvie's line crossed Forty-mile creek it was 100 of a second, or six feet and nine inches, too far east, and when it crossed the Yukon it was 14 seconds, or 618 feet, too far west.

"Thus it may be seen that the line as located by Ogilvie is substantially correct. There is no possibility of an error the correction of which could place the gold region in American territory. At the same time, Dawson City is 50 miles on the Canadian side of the Ogilvie line.

"If the treaty now before the senate providing for fixing the boundary is ratified, a commission will be appointed to perform this duty. It is considered more than probable that the Ogilvie survey will be accepted.

THE CIVIL SERVICE LAW.

Test Case by a Postal Employee Who Refuses to be Removed.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 3.—John C. Woods, superintendent of mails at the Louisville (Ky.) post office yesterday brought suit against Postmaster-General Gary and the post office department authorities to prevent them from removing him from his service. The case probably will be a test of the power to remove a government official embraced within the civil service laws.

Woods was notified that his services would be dispensed with and refused to resign. He has now asked for an injunction to prevent his removal. Now, then, what would it cost, even based on the same lines, to telephone to any of the great commercial cities of Europe. Just think of being asked to pay \$50 or \$60 a minute. Where is the business man who could afford such an expenditure? Then, again, look at the millions of people who never use the telephone at all. It costs money to manufacture and lay cables and to use one for telephone services alone would never pay.—N. Y. Journal.

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